

REMARKS

This amendment responds to the Final Office Action mailed April 19, 2006. In the Office Action the Examiner:

- allowed claims 11-20;
- objected to claim 7, 8, and 21-23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim;
- rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koyama et al. (US 5,703,582);
- rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(s) as being unpatentable over Koyama et al. as applied to claim 1 above, in view of Gillig (US 5,604,468); and
- rejected claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koyama et al. as applied to claim 1 above.

After entry of this amendment, the pending claims are: claims 7-23.

Comment Concerning Claims 15-20

It is noted that the Examiner has said that claims 11-20 are allowed (see page 1), and then says at the bottom of page 2 that "Claims 1-3 and 15-20 are rejected" In addition, on page 6, the Examiner lists the reasons that claims 15-20 have been allowed. It is therefore assumed that claims 15-20 are allowed and that the mention of claims 15-20 at the bottom of page 2 is a typographical error. If this is not correct, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reissue the office action and to restart the period for response.

Overview of Changes to Claims

Claims 1-3 and 5-6 have been cancelled.

Claims 7, 8 and 21 have been rewritten in independent form.

Claims 9 and 10 have been revised to depend from claim 7.

Remarks

After entry of this amendment, all the remaining pending claims are claims that were noted as being allowable by the Examiner in the office action dated April 19, 2006.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider this application with a view towards allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (650) 843-4000, if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining items.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 17, 2006

/ Gary S. Williams /

31,066

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